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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

COUNTRY	Egypt/UK	DATE DISTR.	5 June 1950
SUBJECT	Attitude of Egyptian Government toward Reopening Negotiations with the British	NO. OF PAGES	1
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1. [redacted] the Egyptian Government is worried about present Egyptian relations with the United Kingdom. The reply of the British Foreign Office to the most recent Egyptian note regarding the British troops in the Suez Canal Zone and the Sudan question offered little hope of a solution which would satisfy Egyptian national pride. The Egyptian Cabinet, however, is opposed to opening negotiations unless it can offer the public a result that the Wafd would consider a success.

2. One strong group within the Cabinet, including Minister of Communications 'Ali Zaki al-Arabi Pasha and Minister of Public Works 'Uthman Muharram Pasha, favors a compromise solution. According to informant, this group believes that if Egypt insists upon all her demands she will get nothing, whereas an acceptance of the Sidki-Bevin plan would at least serve as a basis for negotiation.

3. The Palace is also in favor of compromise. Source states that King Faruq has warned the Government that a future war may force Egypt to accept even less favorable terms in exchange for British protection.

4. Prime Minister Nahhas Pasha has, according to source, asked Wafd leader Najib Hilali to prepare a memorandum on the Anglo-Egyptian question in the light of the present international situation, and to examine the legal aspects of the Sudan question in the hope that a compromise solution can be worked out.

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